

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vehicle comprising:
  - a vehicle body;
  - an internal combustion engine mounted to said vehicle body, said engine comprising a crankshaft mounted in a crankcase, said crankshaft extending along a first axis;
  - a drive system mounted to said vehicle body for contacting a travel surface, whereby rotation of at least a portion of said drive system enables movement of said vehicle body relative the travel surface;
  - a transmission coupled with said drive system; and
  - a coupling system for coupling said engine with said transmission, said coupling system comprising a drive member and a driven member, said drive member being located along said first axis and being coupled with said crankshaft, said driven member being located along said first axis and being coupled with said transmission, said driven member being rotatably mounted in said crankcase, and said drive member being coupled with said driven member.
2. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein said coupling system comprises a damper portion, said damper portion comprising at least one cushioning member located between said drive member and said driven member.
3. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein driven member covers said drive member and a damper portion.
4. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein said driven member is supported at first and second ends thereof in said crankcase.
5. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein said driven member is mounted in said crankcase with bearings.
6. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein said coupling system is located generally within said crankcase.
7. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein said vehicle body comprises a saddle-riding type seat.
8. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein said vehicle body comprises a steering assembly coupled with one or more skis.
9. The vehicle of Claim 1, wherein said drive system comprises a drive track.
10. A vehicle comprising:

a vehicle body;  
an internal combustion engine mounted to said vehicle body, said engine comprising a crankshaft mounted in a crankcase;  
a drive system mounted to said vehicle body for contacting a travel surface;  
a transmission coupled with said drive system; and  
a means for coupling said engine with said transmission within said crankcase.

11. The vehicle of Claim 10, wherein said coupling means comprises a drive member.

12. The vehicle of Claim 10, wherein said coupling means comprises a driven member.

13. The vehicle of Claim 10, wherein said coupling means comprises a member rotatably mounted within said crankcase.

14. The vehicle of Claim 10, wherein said coupling means comprises a means for damping.

15. The vehicle of Claim 10, wherein said vehicle body comprises a saddle-riding type seat.

16. The vehicle of Claim 10, wherein said vehicle body comprises a steering assembly coupled with one or more skis.

17. The vehicle of Claim 10, wherein said drive system comprises a drive track.